

The Weekly North Carolina Standard

"Liberty and Union, now and forever, one and inseparable."

RALEIGH, N. C., WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 21, 1886.

Vol. XXXII.

The Weekly Standard.

W. W. HOLDEN. J. W. HOLDEN.
W. W. HOLDEN & SON,
Editors of the Standard, and authorized publishers
of the Laws of the United States.

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The type upon which the Standard is now printed is entirely new. No pains will be spared to render it a valuable friend and adviser to all classes.

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SPECIAL NOTICES charged 50 per cent. higher than ordinary advertisements.
For advertisements inserted irregularly, 25 per cent. higher than usual rates will be charged.
No paper in the South has advertising facilities superior to the Standard.

Letters must be addressed to
W. W. HOLDEN & SON,
Raleigh, N. C.

Death of Isaac N. Sanders, Esq.

We regret to have to state that Isaac N. Sanders, Esq., the Senator from Onslow, expired in this City on Monday, 12th, after a brief illness. Mr. Sanders had been in feeble health for some time past.
His death was announced in the Commons on Tuesday in appropriate terms, by Mr. Merrill, the Commoner from Onslow, and some remarks were made by Mr. Manly, and in the Senate addresses were delivered in relation to the sad event by Mr. McKay, of Sampson, and Mr. Morehead, of Guilford. The remarks of Mr. McKay will appear in our next.

The deceased was interred with Masonic honors, and the funeral sermon was delivered in the Methodist Episcopal Church, by the Rev. H. T. Hudson. A large number of the Masonic craft, embracing many visiting brethren, members of the Legislature and others, turned out on the occasion. The remains were placed in a vault, so as to be sent hereafter to Onslow.
We knew the deceased well. He was a high-toned, honorable man, possessed of more than ordinary intelligence, and was devoted in his attachments to his friends. The County of Onslow has been deprived by this sad event of one of her worthiest, most respected, and useful citizens.

The birthday of WASHINGTON, the Father of our Country, is fast approaching. We see that preparations are being made in the North to celebrate it appropriately.

How often did we hear, during the late war, the exclamation: "If Washington had been alive, this would never have been!" We had no Washington then, nor have we one now—but his words and example are left us. We solemnly recommend our people to read, with one accord, his immortal Farewell Address, upon the approaching day of his birth—the 22nd. The words that he uttered then were meant to apply in times like these. Let them not be forgotten.

Another Proposed Constitutional Amendment.

Andrew Johnson said a wise thing, when he expressed himself as being opposed to any more tinkering upon the Constitution. But still the operation continues.

It will be seen by reference to our telegraphic column that another Constitutional Amendment has been reported from the committee on restoration, to secure to all persons in the several States equal protection to life, liberty and property, by enactment of Congress. Judging from the quarter from whence it emanates, it will no doubt be strongly pressed.

Jefferson Davis.

On the 7th inst., the Speaker laid before the House of Representatives a message from the President, in reply to a resolution asking information concerning the case of Jefferson Davis, C. C. Clay and others, in which he says that it is not compatible with the public interests to make known the records or reports of the Judge Advocate, the evidence contained in them being merely *ex parte* and intended for his ear alone.

Our neighbor of the *Sentinel* devotes some space to the Report of the joint select committee on Banks and Banking.

The *Sentinel* says, "it is not proposed by Gov. Worth, or by the friends of the plan, to divert either the Banks from their original purposes of banking, or the coin they possess from the use and benefit of its rightful owners, the creditors of the Banks; but that the Banks may so employ what has been left from the general wreck, in the legitimate business of banking, for the special benefit of the creditors, and the benefit of the stockholders and public, incidentally."

It is admitted on all hands that the Banks of the State are insolvent. They will be able to redeem their issues, one for four in gold, leaving nothing for the stockholders. We do not pretend to be accurate in the statement, but in the main it is correct. These institutions are, therefore, *bankrupt*. It is not expected by any one that they are to resume and continue their business, as if nothing had happened to them. Their condition is such, owing to their participation in the rebellion, whether forced or not, that they require the aid of legislation in any event, whether their coin shall be diverted into new Banks or they shall be required to wind up. The "original purpose," we admit, was to bank, but that was to be done under certain charters with well-defined restrictions and limitations. If the coin and other property of the Banks should be allowed by the Legislature to be invested in stock in a National Bank—and this, as we understand it, is what is proposed—then the old or former charters would cease, and the question would arise, whether at the termination of the charters, the remaining assets should not be distributed among the creditors.

The creditors of the Banks are the holders of their notes. The Banks promised to redeem these notes dollar for dollar in specie, but at best, as we have stated, they can redeem only in proportion of one to four. The managers of the Banks have already disappointed the "rightful owners" of the coin, in that they have suffered a loss of three-fourths of it; and now the "rightful owners"—that is the creditors—are appealed to to permit these same managers to divert the remaining coin into new Banks, operating on different principles from the old ones, and to use it in future on the general assurance that they, the managers, will be able to turn it to better account than the "rightful owners" could. Admit, for argument's sake, that this should be done, *how is the asset and co-operation of the "rightful owners" of the coin to be obtained?* The stockholders can meet and decide on any question, but how is it possible for the "rightful owners"—that is, the creditors or bill-holders—to assemble together and decide this or any other question? And who is to decide for them? If they are the "rightful owners," as our neighbor correctly says they are, then they are entitled to the coin. The only course is to wind up the Banks, pay out the coin to the creditors, and let them dispose of it as they please.

But our neighbor intimates that the Report of the joint select committee referred to, was written by the Editor of this paper. This is not so. We never saw the Report until a copy of it was handed to us in writing, at our request, by A. J. Jones, Esq., chairman of the committee. Our neighbor compliments us by attributing the authorship of the Report to us. But the committee is composed of some of the ablest members of the Legislature, who are entirely competent to do their own thinking and writing.

There are other points in the *Sentinel's* article which we may notice hereafter.

We see, floating around through the papers of the country, an item which says that a movement is on foot at Washington to consolidate the Democratic party and Conservative Republicans into a new organization, to be styled the National Union party.

The Southern railroads, are repairing the breaches made by Gen. Sherman's army. The railroad is now open from Augusta to Savannah and has been in operation for a month.

Reported Changes Among Foreign Ministers.

Mr. Charles Francis Adams, United States Minister to England, it is reported, is anxious to return home. It is said, that he is persistent in his wish to do so, it will be assented to.

In that event, says the *Tribune*, either Mr. Motly, now Minister at Vienna or Mr. Marsh, Minister to Italy, will be assigned to England. Gov. Curtin, of Pennsylvania, it is surmised, will fill the vacancy occasioned at Vienna or in Italy.

Trial of Mrs. Elizabeth Ball.

[BY OUR OWN SPECIAL REPORTER.]
Mrs. Elizabeth Ball, of Warren county, was put upon trial in this City, Monday, the 12th inst., for the murder of James Thomas, colored, on the 12th of January last, before a military Commission composed as follows:

Lieut. Col. George T. Shaffer, 28th Michigan Infantry.
Capt. G. W. Bowler, 28th Michigan Infantry.
1st Lieut. A. N. Danrell, U. S. Engineers.
1st Lieut. A. B. Gardner, 7th V. B. C.
2nd Lieut. Wm. R. Wilcox, 28th Michigan Infantry.

Major Francis E. Wolcott, Judge Advocate.
Counsel for the defense—Hon. Sten H. Rogers of Wake, J. Parker Jordan, Esq., of Warren and G. B. Harris, Esq., of Granville.

The Court being duly organized—the Judge Advocate read the order for its assembling. He then read the charge and specification as follows:

Charge—Murder.

Thomas, a colored man, in the county of Warren, in the State of North Carolina, on or about the 12th day of January 1866.

To the specification the prisoner pleaded "not guilty" and to the charge "not guilty."

Mr. Jordan, counsel for the defense, stated that certain witnesses, who had been regularly subpoenaed, had refused to attend, and asked that process be issued to compel their attendance, and the order was made accordingly.

W. D. Hendrick, for the prosecution, was then sworn, and testified, substantially, as follows:

"My name is W. D. Hendrick, I live in Warren county, and am about twenty-one years of age. I went with James Thomas, the deceased, to the house of Ball, on the 12th of January; when we approached the yard, Mrs. Ball asked 'have you come to kill me with your gun?' I answered, 'No, I have come to read a note to you.' She said, 'I do not want to hear it.' She came out of the kitchen and came out to meet us; I told her not to shoot, and she said 'get out of the way.' I then went towards the chimney, about ten steps; she then cocked the gun and snapped it at Jim, who went up to her and caught the gun in his hand and held it off from him; she got the gun out of his hand and shot him; he staggered and fell. I told her I had not come with any bad intention."

The house is made of logs, has two rooms; the kitchen is about fifteen steps from the house; the place is about a mile from the public road. After the shooting, Mrs. Ball said that Mr. Rowland told her, if the negro came there again, to shoot him.

Question. What did Mrs. Ball say, when you first went there?

Answer. She told the boy (Jim) not to come in the yard.

We first saw Mrs. Ball coming out of the kitchen; we were then about twenty or thirty yards from the house, at the edge of the yard—nearer to the house than to the kitchen. She told him not to come to the house when she first came out of the kitchen; she then went into the house and got the gun; the boy was then within ten steps of the house; when she snapped the gun, I was near the chimney.

[Witness here gave a rough diagram of the premises, and the relative positions of the parties; from which it appears they came up towards the chimney, which is to the east, the kitchen is to the west of the house, opposite the direction they came; the doors, North and South.]

Examination, direct, continued. Mrs. B. went in the house by the south and came out at the north door. When she came out we were about fifteen steps from the door; when the gun fired Jim was near the corner of the house. This was about 9 or 10 o'clock in the morning. Witness went there to read the note.

Question by the Judge Advocate. "Where did you get the note and what were its contents?"

This question was objected to by Mr. Jordan, and was withdrawn.

The Judge Advocate then showed witness two notes and asked him if those were the notes he carried to read to Mrs. Ball.

The defense objected to the introduction of these papers, on the ground that their authenticity was not established.

The prosecution argued that they be read simply to show why the witness was there at the time.

The question was argued before the Court, after which the Court was cleared for a decision on the question.

Upon re-admission of counsel, the Court announced that the objection was overruled, and the papers might be read. The following are copies:

W. D. HENDERSON, Jan. 11th.

Mr. William Ball: Sir—James Thomas, Freedman, says you sent a note of clothing belonging to him; you will please deliver the same to him, or report to this office, on Thursday, 18th. You will also please pay Jim for his work.

Respectfully,
BENJAMIN EVANS,
Capt. and Supt.

Mr. J. Hendrick—Will you please see that the enclosed is read or conveyed to Mr. Ball.

Respectfully,
BENJAMIN EVANS.

Answer. These are the notes; I got them from Jim. My father was not at home that morning; he had gone off with a man to Mr. Red's. My father's name is Alexander G. Hendricks.

CROSS EXAMINED.

I had my father's gun; Jim had a gun also; both guns were loaded. Mrs. Ball had stayed at my father's the night before; he handed me the notes and I showed them to my father; we did not talk about them. I told Jim that I should have to go with him, as father had to go with the man. I did not know the clothing was not there; don't know whether Jim knew it or not; I always carry my gun; I took it to hunt with as I went along; the gun Jim had belonged to Frank, a colored man, who lives at my father's.

Question. Did you hear Jim say he would have his clothes or kill Mrs. Ball?

Answer. I did not. I heard him say he would have his clothes before the next Thursday; he was on Tuesday, I think, before we went to Mr. Ball's on Friday. I do not know that Jim went to Warrenton. Mr. Ball was not at home when we went; we did not enquire for him. I heard Mrs. Ball tell Jim, once, not to come; we were twenty or thirty yards off when she told him so; we were outside of the fence, which is fifteen or twenty yards from the house. Jim did not say anything, but that he came after his clothes; don't think she told him the clothes were not there; she told me, after Jim was shot, that Mr. Rowland had them. I was at Mrs. Ball's the Sunday before—am not in the habit of going there. Jim still advanced after Mrs. Ball told him not to come, and after the gun snapped. I got out of the way, and went near the chimney. I could see that took place. I was about ten steps off; did not see him punch her with his gun; he might have done so in the scuffle, when he was 'tween me and her. I know Charles Jones, Thomas Steed and Richard Kearney; told them about the affair—the same statement to them that I have made here, as truly as I can.

When she said that I continued to advance, because I did not know what would happen. Question. Did you see Mrs. Ball when she came back?

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